



PLAYGROUND SAFETY PLAN



To ensure that children in Head Start Centers play safely on the playground, the following will occur:

1. Staff will position themselves at different locations on the playground and will move from one area to another, following the play movements of the children. They will place themselves so that they can monitor the activities of all children, anticipate, as much as possible, the likelihood of an accident occurring, and redirect a child to another activity or location as a preventative measure.
2. In monitoring children's activities, staff will pay attention to safe ways of play. These will include:
 - Watching the bottom of the slide for other children who may be hit by the child who is sliding down
 - Holding onto the chairs of swings with both hands
 - Designating a safe Slide zone in front and in back of swings where other children will not play (to avoid being hit by a moving swing)
 - Running on the grass or wood chip areas of the playground and walking on paved areas
 - Riding tricycles at a moderate or slow speed and watching for other children riding tricycles
 - Ride Tricycles on paved areas
 - Not throwing rocks or wood chips
3. Staff will remain active in their supervision of children during outdoor time.
4. The center teacher is responsible for assessing the resilient surface (wood chips) of the playground and sweeping or raking them back into place each week under climbing, sliding, and swing areas. Furthermore, he or she is to request the addition of more wood chips in areas where needed to cushion any falls which may occur.
5. Either the teacher or teaching assistant is to report to the administrative office any repairs which need to be made to playground equipment promptly.